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E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/09/2019  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PTER](#) [MOPS](#) [PK](#) [IN](#)  
SUBJECT: HOLBROOKE-MULLEN VISIT TO INDIA: AFGHAN POLICE  
TRAINING

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires Peter Burleigh for Reasons 1.4 (B and D)

[¶1.](#) (C) In a series of high level meetings in Delhi April 8, Indian Officials told Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan Richard Holbrooke and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mike Mullen that they were prepared to establish a major new Afghan police training program -- either in Afghanistan or in India. While the U.S. officials welcomed the offer, it was agreed that further discussion was needed to consider the size and content of any such new training program )- and, politically, how to deal with expected negative reaction from Pakistan should the proposal move forward.

[¶2.](#) (C) Just prior to departure, National Security Advisor Narayanan told Holbrooke and Mullen that this subject would be discussed further on the margins of the May 5-7 consultative meetings in Washington, which will be attended by Foreign Secretary Menon and others. Narayanan confirmed that the GOI was ready to make such a contribution and sought U.S. views on its possible modalities and structure. (NOTE: India has provided small-scale police training to Afghanistan previously, but is considering a much larger, and thus more sensitive (in Pakistan), program. END NOTE.)

[¶3.](#) (C) EMBASSY COMMENT: Indians are well aware how allergic Pakistan authorities would be to an enhanced police training program but are also convinced that such a program is urgently needed by the floundering Afghan state. What was particularly noteworthy was the Indian request for USG advice and coordination on next steps in consideration of such a move.

[¶4.](#) (U) Ambassador Holbrooke cleared this message.

BURLEIGH